
JAPAN SOCIAL WORK ASSOCIATION
(Nippon Shakai Jigyo Kyokai)

PUBLIC HEALTH AND WELFARE TECHNICAL BULLETIN

PH&W GHQ SCAP APO 500

August 1947

1. Purpose of Association. One of the oldest and most important welfare organizations in Japan is the Japan Social Work Association (Nippon Shakai Jigyo Kyokai) which has definite responsibilities in the field of private welfare work and a close relationship to the Welfare Ministry (Koseisho). The activities of the Association include the following:

- a. Coordinate activities of all social welfare agencies.
- b. Carry out research and investigations including the compilation of statistics in the field of social welfare.
- c. Publish books and magazines and maintain a central library.
- d. Develop and carry out welfare training and educational programs.
- e. When requested, provide information to the Welfare Ministry concerning private welfare work in Japan.
- f. Sponsoring social work conferences.

2. Historical Background. The organization of the Social Work Association apparently resulted from the first national welfare conference held in Osaka in 1903 when it was recognized that a permanent central welfare organization was needed. The formation of such an association was delayed however because of the Russo-Japanese war. The Central Charity Association (Chuo Jizen Kyokai) was created in October 1908 with the purpose of coordinating the work of all charity organizations in Japan. In 1921 the name of the association was changed to the Central Social Work Association (Chuo Shakai Jigyo Kyokai) which was the name used until March 1947 when the present name was adopted. The association was formally

incorporated in March 1924. In March 1947 the association effected a reorganization but the main phases of the work remained the same.

With the establishment of the Welfare Ministry in 1938 the Social Work Association was granted larger responsibilities under the provisions of the Social Work Law (Shakai Jigyo Ho) which became effective on 1 July 1938. At that time the private social welfare agencies of Japan were having difficulty in financing their programs and the government developed an extensive plan of subsidies. At times the subsidies to local associations were handled through the central Social Work Association.

3. National Organizations. The national office of the association is located at 1 Sannen-cho, Koji machi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo. The work of the association is carried out through the following sections:

a. General Affairs:

- (1) General supervision of the work of the association including personnel.
- (2) Finances - accounts and audit

b. Activities:

- (1) Guidance of all social welfare activities.
- (2) Education of the public concerning social welfare.
- (3) Coordination of work of social welfare agencies.
- (4) Sponsor welfare conferences.
- (5) Assist in securing supplies for social work.
- (6) Mutual aid for persons engaged in social work.

c. Research:

- (1) Research and investigation of social conditions and social problems.
- (2) Research and study concerning theoretical and practical aspects of social welfare.
- (3) Publication of periodicals and books.
- (4) Library: The association maintains a library in Tokyo containing about 20,000 volumes concerning welfare programs in Japan and other countries.

(5) Collection and classification of books and other materials concerning welfare matters.

There is a Committee of Representatives which is a part of the national organization. This committee consists of one or more representatives from each prefecture proportionate to the number of regular members in each prefecture. The committee is scheduled to meet at least once a year in Tokyo to establish the budget of the Association and approve proposed expenditures. This committee also approves the plans for future programs of the association which are submitted by the Executive Director. Officials of the association are elected by this committee every three years.

4. Affiliated Organizations. There are six of the largest national welfare organizations in Japan which are affiliated with the Japan Social Work Association. These organizations are: Japan Red Cross Society, (Seikijuji); New Life Association (Seiseikai); National Relief Association (Doho Enso Kai); Welfare Workers Federation (Minsei-in Renmei); Blind Persons Welfare Association (Mojin Fukushi Kyokai); Mothers and Children Welfare Society (Boshi Aiku Kai). Representatives of these national welfare organizations serve as members of the national board of the association.

In addition to these national agencies there are approximately five thousand (5000) other welfare organizations and institutions which are members of the Social Work Association. Each of these agencies pays an annual membership fee of one hundred yen (¥100) half of which goes to the national office and half is used by the prefecture branch.

5. Local Organization. In each prefecture of Japan there is a local association which is reported to carry on a program in the prefecture similar to the National program. As in other organizations the prefecture governor is the honorary president of the prefecture association while the other offices may be held by other prefecture officials or persons not connected with the government. The office of the local association is usually located in the prefecture office (Kencho).

The name of the prefecture association is not the same in every prefecture. The usual name is the Ken Shakai Jigyo Kyokai (Prefecture Social Work Association), but other names used in some prefectures are Kosei Jigyo Kyokai (Welfare Work Association); Koseikai or Kosei Kyokai. According to the records of the national office each prefecture association has one or more full time employees.

6. Finances. The association secures funds to carry on its activities from the following sources:

a. Membership payments and donations.

b. Payments from the Welfare Ministry for services performed, such as the operation of specified training programs for employees of the Welfare Ministry.

c. Income from enterprises such as the publication and sale of books and magazines.

d. Payments from patrons and foundations.

7. Japan Social Work School. The Japan Social Work Association has for many years been responsible for carrying on educational and training programs for persons engaged in public and private welfare work. From 1927 to 1944 the association conducted a training school in Tokyo which was attended by approximately 180 persons. Each year the association selected about ten persons from university or college graduates who wished to enter the welfare field and provided an additional year of specialized training. Many of the persons who completed this training program are now engaged in welfare work in Japan. The school was discontinued in 1944 because of the exigencies of war.

After considerable study the Association opened a new school of social work in the fall of 1946. Under the sponsorship of the Welfare Ministry a welfare education committee was established in July 1946 for the purpose of studying the subject and making recommendations. This committee consisted of representatives of the Welfare Ministry, Education Ministry, public and private universities, members of the Diet, social welfare agencies and organizations. In accordance with the recommendations of this committee the Japan Social Work School (Nihon Shakai Jigyō Gakko) was established and began operations in September 1946. Although the school is operated by the Japan Social Work Association the Welfare Ministry has been actively encouraging the program. The School has been approved as a Semmon Gakko (Technical School) by the Japanese Education Ministry. This approval was effective 31 March 47. The school is located at Haramachi, Ushigome (Wakamatsu-cho, Shingu-ku), Tokyo.

The original plan of the newly established school was to provide a one year training program for graduates of colleges and universities who wished to enter social welfare work and a three year course for other students. The one year curriculum began in the fall of 1946 when fifty-two (52) students, including four women began their studies. The first class of students will complete the one year course of study in September 1947. A second term for one year students began in April 1947 when thirty (30) more students including five women entered the school. A total of fifty-two (52) students including two women entered the school in June 1947. This group of students will attend the school for three years.

It is expected that the next group of students will enter the school in April 1948. According to present plans the one year curriculum will be continued for persons with the necessary academic background and experience as well as the three year training program for persons with less preparatory training. No formal announcement has as yet been made concerning the number and qualifications of students to enter the school in 1948. It is probable that at least a total of one hundred students will be admitted in the two curricula if the necessary financing can be arranged.

8. Training Program. In addition to formal educational programs the Japan Social Work Association has carried out a program of in-service training for persons engaged in welfare work. With the sponsorship of the Social Affairs Bureau of the Welfare Ministry the Association has conducted a series of one week training conferences. These training conferences are not to be confused with meetings held for minsei-iin. These conferences have been scheduled as follows:

<u>Prefecture</u>	<u>Date</u>
Shiga	November 1946
Nagano	January 1947
Chiba	February 1947
Fukushima	March 1947
Saitama	May 1947
Kumamoto (Kyushu)	June 1947
Kogawa (Shikoku)	July 1947

Each of these conferences have been attended by approximately fifty (50) persons most of whom are local public officials responsible for the administration of the Daily Life Security Law in their localities. The conferences are attended not only by personnel working in the prefecture in which the meeting is held but also by personnel from adjacent prefectures. Persons to attend are recommended by the prefecture governor from the following groups: (1) government or municipal officials who have been engaged in social work administration over one year; (2) other welfare employees who have at least three(3) years experience and (3) persons specially recommended by the governor.

Due to the shortage of food, transportation and housing problems it has been necessary to give training courses which cover only a seven day period. The schedule followed at each of these conferences varies and may be changed somewhat in the future.

1st day	Outline of Social Work
2nd day	Daily Life Security Law and Minsei-iin
3rd day	Social Case Work
4th day	Child Welfare
5th day	Japanese Economy
6th day	Social Survey and Statistics
7th day	The Future of Social Work

Most of these training conferences have been attended by Welfare officers of Military Government Regions and Prefecture Teams. Informal reports from Japanese officials indicates that the interest of Occupation Force personnel in this and similar welfare training programs has overcome the apathy of many of the Japanese prefecture officials toward welfare activities. Such programs seem particularly important at this time because of the extensive changes in welfare administration and the effect of the Daily Life Security Law.

9. Publications

a. The association attempts to publish a monthly magazine called Social Work (Shakai Jigyo) but the shortage of paper has made it impossible to publish each month.

b. For many years the association published the Japan Social Work Year Book (Nippon Shakai Jigyo Nen Kan). A total of eight such volumes have been published but was discontinued during the war. The lack of paper and necessary funds has prevented resumption of publication.

c. The Association also compiled and published in 1937 a list of social welfare agencies and institutions in Japan, classified by prefecture and types of work.